

female portion of a magnet body surface side is buried with 15 micron filler material from particle size 0.1 micron first in order to make surface roughness of a magnet object less than 3 microns. Then, 1-30 microns general resin is coated thereon. Consequently, there are no pinholes. An advantage of these features is that the covered magnet object with a surface roughness that is small and has excellent corrosion resistance.

The Examiner relies upon Nakayama et al. (column 2, lines 50-60) as teaching these features. However, this portion of Nakayama et al. says nothing about the surface roughness being less than 3 microns. Instead, this portion merely states that surface roughness is important to corrosion resistance, and that polishing may be used to control surface roughness.

Independent claim 1 further recites "a filling material...fixed with a thermosetting resin." This filler material has "a particle size between .1 and 15 microns." The Examiner relies upon Sagawa as teaching these features. However, column 5, lines 5-23 of this reference, relied upon by the Examiner, do not teach or suggest a particle filler. This reference instead teaches epoxy dissolved in ethyl ketone, as described in Examples 1-27 set forth in columns 22-38.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1, and claim 2 depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited references. Independent claim 3 and claims 4-6 depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited references for similar reasons.

*Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sagawa et al. in view of Nakayama et al. and further in view of Strnat.*

Strnat does not overcome the above deficiencies in Sagawa et al. and Nakayama et al., and is not relied upon for this purpose.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

**CONCLUSION:**

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Response, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 3-24-03

By: 

Michael J. Badagliacca  
Registration No. 39,099

700 Eleventh Street, NW, Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
(202) 434-1500